



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE ADVISORY GROUP FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2010 MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dennis Yates, AQMD Governing Board Member, LGSBA Chairman
Greg Adams, L.A. County Sanitation District
Felipe Aguirre, Vice Mayor, City of Maywood
Paul Avila, P.B.A. & Associates
Geoffrey Blake, Metal Finishers of Southern California/All Metals
Eric Busch, Representative, South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Daniel Cunningham, Metal Finishing Association
Jacob Haik, Office of School Board Member Richard Vladovic
Maria Elena Kennedy, Kennedy Communications
Angelo Logan, East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice
Art Montez, AMA International
Steve Mugg, South Orange County Representative, City of Mission Viejo

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ronald Loveridge, AQMD Governing Board Member, LGSBA Vice Chairman
Todd Campbell, Clean Energy
James R. Krausz, Esq., ALA Inland Counties
Kelly Moulton, Paralegal

OTHERS PRESENT:

Earl Elrod, Board Member Assistant (*Yates*)
Nicole Nishimura, Board Member Assistant (*Lyou*)
Kris Flaig, City of Los Angeles/SCAP

AQMD STAFF:

Philip Crabbe, Community Relations Manager
Anupom Ganguli, Asst. DEO/Public Advisor
Lori Langrell, Secretary
John Olvera, Principal Deputy District Counsel
Jean Ospital, Health Effects Officer
Ricardo A Rivera, Senior Staff Specialist
Jill Whynot, Director of Strategic Initiatives
Daniel Wong, Office Assistant

Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Chair Dennis Yates called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.

Chair Yates informed the group that the District issued approximately 1,200 permits on January 2, 2010, and that this morning there is a court hearing involving an attempted injunction to stop AQMD from issuing permits.

Mr. Eric Busch asked if there was any concern about the 1,200 permits issued not being able to be used. Chair Yates replied that those permits are already issued and are valid. The injunction is to stop any other permits from being issued.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of December 11, 2009 Meeting Minutes/Review of Follow-Up/Action Items

Chair Yates called for approval of the meeting minutes.

The December 11, 2009 meeting minutes were approved.

***Action Item:** Staff will provide a list of programs that have been implemented in EJ areas, and funding allocated to these programs.*
Completed.

Agenda Item #4 – Summary of the Waxman/Markey and Boxer/Kerry Climate Change Bills

Ms. Jill Whynot provided a presentation regarding pending federal climate change legislation.

Mr. Art Montez asked with regard to cap and trade, is this the type of program that allows for the trading of emissions. Ms. Whynot stated that each facility must hold their credits, and if successful in reducing them, they can sell or trade them. Mr. Montez further asked if impacted communities are given the opportunity to provide input, for example through town hall meetings. Ms. Whynot replied that one of the recommendations suggested for the climate change legislation is to allow for more local benefits, and to make sure the impacted areas are notified. The state requires this through AB 32. This requirement is not in the federal bill yet, but we are pushing for inclusion.

Mr. Geoff Blake inquired regarding provisions relating to the electrification of trains. Dr. Ganguli replied that these provisions involve the bringing of goods from the ports to the inland area. Ms. Whynot replied that the language to include electrification of trains in EJ areas in the bill was written by Peter Greenwald, almost word for word.

Mr. Angelo Logan asked what the comparison is in terms of federal cap and trade versus international cap and trade. Ms. Whynot indicated that the rules with regard to international cap and trade are not yet written. California would like to have a program that is linked up with the Western Climate Initiative. Mr. Logan inquired about who is the expert on staff at the District regarding cap and trade. Chair Yates indicated Ms. Whynot is an expert. Ms. Whynot indicated that Mohsen Nazemi is knowledgeable on the implementation, and that there is a very good white paper on the AQMD website. Mr. Logan indicated that there is a very good video, the story of cap and trade on the internet, and would be interested to hear Ms. Whynot's analysis of it. It was done right before Copenhagen, and if you Google "story of cap & trade" you can find it.

Mr. Eric Bush asked Ms. Whynot if she could define black carbon. Ms. Whynot indicated that black carbon derives from diesel emissions. These diesel particulates are small, less than 2.5

microns. Black carbon has been associated with some of the problems in India and other areas of the world where they use indoor cook stoves that utilize kerosene.

Mr. Avila asked if the bureaucratic structure of the cap and trade program was already set up, or if it still is in a state of flux. Ms. Whynot indicated that there are active voluntary markets in the United States and the rest of the world for offsets. There are some greenhouse gas cap and trade programs like the REGI (Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative) program that covers power plants in the eastern states.

Mr. Dan Cunningham asked if clean diesels emit less black carbon. Ms. Whynot indicated it would be less, not sure what percentage, but a cleaner diesel would burn cleaner, and if particulate traps are utilized, more emissions would be captured as well.

Agenda Item #5 – Update Regarding Federal Ambient Air Quality Standards

Dr. Jean Ospital gave a presentation regarding the US EPA's current review of federal ambient air quality standards.

Ms. Maria Elena Kennedy asked if the standards affect TMDL and water. Dr. Ospital replied it is strictly air concentrations for air quality standards. In terms of water quality, part of the analysis for the secondary standard for nitrogen dioxide and sulfur dioxide are fallout of sulfates and nitrates that are oxidized from the pre-cursors, and those can affect water quality and nutrients for vegetation.

Mr. Montez asked why water is left to a secondary standards review. Dr. Ospital indicated the EPA has water quality standards as well. The EPA memo has a focus on protecting health and the environment as it relates to air quality.

Mr. Logan asked what the current PM standards are. Dr. Ospital replied for PM 2.5 they are 35 micrograms per cubic meter, and the annual standard is 15 micrograms per cubic meter.

Mr. Felipe Aguirre asked what the lead standards are. Dr. Ospital replied that the Bush Administration lowered the standards from 1.5 to .15 micrograms per cubic meter. Mr. Aguirre asked if the EPA is proposing new standards. Dr. Ospital replied not for lead.

Mr. Greg Adams indicated he wanted the group to understand that to change the national ambient air standards is an enormous and significant task to undertake. It ushers in another 20 year period depending on what the established attainment date is of additional rules and regulations on that respective pollutant.

Agenda Item #6 – Monthly Report on Small Business Assistance Activities

No comments.

Agenda Item #7 – Update on Climate Change Activities (Written Report)

Ms. Whynot provided a written report update on climate change activities.

Agenda Item #8 - Other Business

Mr. Logan asked if the group can discuss the Federal Transportation bill update.

***Action Item:** Staff to provide a discussion on the Federal Transportation bill.*

Mr. Blake asked if the District can have staff provide an explanation in layman's terms, or possibly a workshop regarding new rule 1155.

***Action Item:** Staff to provide a discussion on Rule 1155.*

Agenda Item #9 - Public Comment

None.

Agenda Item #10 - Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.